

# Culture of Peace

## Distinguished Speaker Series

### Gender Equality: A Key to Peace and Democracy in the Middle East



Nayerh Tohidi, Ph.D.  
Professor & Chair  
Gender & Women's Studies Department  
California State University, Northridge

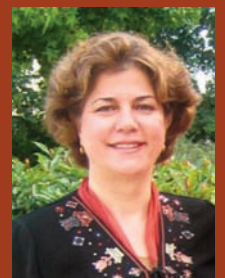
4 pm, Saturday  
October 17, 2009  
At the Culture of Peace  
Resource Center  
606 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90401

Nayerh Tohidi is Professor and Chair of the Gender and Women's Studies Department at California State University, Northridge and a Research Associate at the Center for Near Eastern Studies at UCLA, where she has been coordinating the Bilingual Lecture Series on Iran since 2003.

Tohidi earned her MA and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a BS (with Honors) from

the University of Tehran in Psychology and Sociology. Her teaching and research areas include sociology of gender, religion (Islam), ethnicity and democracy in the Middle East and post-Soviet Central Eurasia, especially Iran and Azerbaijan Republic. She is the recipient of several grants, fellowships and research awards, including a year of Fulbright lectureship and research at the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan; post-doctoral fellowships at Harvard University; the Hoover Institute of Stanford University; the Kennan Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars; and the Keddie-Balzan Fellowship at the Center for Near Eastern Studies at UCLA. She has held visiting positions at Universities of Iowa, Minnesota, Harvard, UCLA, and USC. Tohidi's publications include editorship or authorship of: *Globalization, Gender and Religion: The Politics of Women's Rights in Catholic and Muslim Contexts*; *Women in Muslim Societies: Diversity within Unity*; and *Feminism, Democracy and Islamism in Iran*.

Dr. Tohidi has been a consultant for the United Nations. She represented women NGOs at both the third and fourth World Conferences on Women in Nairobi (NGO Forum 1985) and Beijing (NGO Forum 1995).



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Lectures are free and open to the public. For guaranteed admission, seats may be reserved through email at [peacelectures@sgi-usa.org](mailto:peacelectures@sgi-usa.org).

Reception to follow • Come and win a \$50 gift certificate for culture of peace books and gift items!

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